



San Diego City Attorney **CASEY GWINN**

MEDIA RELEASE

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**FORMER POWAY SCHOOL TEACHER CONVICTED OF STALKING,
SPOUSAL ABUSE, RESTRAINING ORDER VIOLATIONS, AND WEAPONS
CHARGES**

Michael Shields, a former Poway teacher from Twin Peaks Middle School, was convicted today by Superior Court Judge William Kronberger of eighteen counts of stalking, spousal abuse, restraining order violations, and weapons charges.

Shields, a third year law student at Thomas Jefferson School of Law was arrested May 23, 2000 and held on \$500,000 bail in a case personally prosecuted by San Diego City Attorney Casey Gwinn. The allegations involved Shields' abuse of his former girlfriend. After she ended the relationship in June, 1999, Shields began to stalk her over the course of the ensuing ten months.

Shields was in the news in 1995 after two former students came forward and alleged sexual molestation by Shields when he was their teacher at Twin Peaks Middle School. He was later terminated from Twin Peaks but went on to law school. Shields intended to take the Bar exam later this year. He will remain in jail pending sentencing on August 31, 2000 before Judge Kronberger.

"We anticipate seeking a jail sentence of up to 18 years on Mr. Shields," said Gwinn. "At long last, Michael Shields is beginning to face accountability for his violence and abusive conduct over decades of his life," said Gwinn.